

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/066,122

Examiner

John B. Vigushin

Applicant(s)

INV. OFER

Art Unit

2827

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 25 August 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 8, 10 and 17.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
(a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.  
(a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No. 0603.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.  
(c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1 ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
3 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
7 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
4 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
6 ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment  
8 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  
9 ☐ Other

### DETAILED ACTION

1. The present Office Action is responsive to Applicant's Amendment filed August 25, 2003 (Certificate of Mailing date: August 20, 2003). The Examiner acknowledges the amendments to the Abstract and Claims 1, 8, 10 and 17, and the cancellation of Claims 2-7, 9, 11-16 and 18. Claims 1, 8, 10 and 17 remain pending in the instant amended Application.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended to correct an omission of a word in amended Claim 1. As the Applicant has indicated in the final paragraph on p.6 of the instant Amendment, "Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 2 through 6...". Therefore, in accordance with the subject matter as recited in cancelled Claim 3 and incorporated into amended Claim 1, the following insertion into amended Claim 1 of the word "line" from line 1 of cancelled Claim 3 has been made by Examiner's Amendment. Accordingly:

**In Claim 1, line 8: --line-- has been inserted after "one".**

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1, 8, 10 and 17 have been allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to Claims 1 and 10, patentability resides in the combined limitation wherein *the first midplane connector comprises a plurality of midplane subconnectors and the second midplane connector comprises a single midplane connector*, in combination with the other limitations of Claims 1 and 10, respectively.

As to Claims 8 and 17, patentability resides in the combined limitation wherein *the first midplane connector comprises a single midplane connector and the second midplane connector comprises a plurality of midplane subconnectors*, in combination with the other limitations of Claims 8 and 17, respectively.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Claims 1, 8, 10 and 17 in the instant allowed Application have been renumbered as Claims 1-4, respectively, for publication in the issued patent.

***Conclusion***


7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Patriche (US 6,608,762 B2) discloses, in Fig. 1, an electronic assembly comprising a set of port circuit boards 12 connected to one side of midplane board 16 and a set of switching circuit boards 14 connected to the opposite side of midplane board 16 (col.3: 61-65), wherein the set of port circuit boards 12 and the set of switching circuit boards 14 are in orthogonal relationship to each other (col.3: 53-60).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Vigushin whose telephone number is 703-308-1205. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM Mo-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on 703-308-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

  
John B. Vigushin  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2827

jbv  
September 26, 2003